

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4802

June 16, 2011

Mr. Logan Kruger
President and CEO
Century Aluminum
2511 Garden Road
Building A, Suite 200
Monterey, California 93940-5330

Dear Mr. Kruger,

I have an obligation as West Virginia's United States Senator to make sure that the people of my state are treated fairly, and with honesty, by the companies that do business here. Unfortunately, I have concerns that you have been less than forthcoming as it relates to retiree health care, and have not lived up to your commitments to restart operations at your plant in Ravenswood.

Over the past year I have been deeply concerned about your termination of retiree health care benefits and the unimaginable hardship that this decision has caused to retirees and their families. I have repeatedly encouraged you to find ways to restore terminated health care benefits, and identified the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP) as one way that could help. In December 2010, when I asked you to consider participating in ERRP as a way to continue providing coverage, you informed me that "[a]fter careful review of this program...the difficult conclusion was that it simply did not go far enough" in offsetting your health care costs.

That is why I was shocked to learn recently that your company is in fact participating in ERRP, and have been approved for taxpayer-funded reimbursements totaling \$458,389.37. Not only does your acceptance of this funding after terminating benefits appear to be contrary to the purpose of ERRP, it is also contrary to your assertion to me that you were not going to participate in the program. Therefore, I have one basic request – that you use this funding to continue to pay for health care premiums for your West Virginia retirees, beyond the company's existing promise to pay these premiums through June 2011. Using this funding for its intended purpose – to continue providing health care for retirees – is required of the ERRP and is the right thing to do.

I have also been deeply concerned about your curtailment of the Ravenswood smelter, and want to be as helpful as possible in getting the plant running and putting people back to work. The loss of these jobs has been devastating for employees and the community as a whole. Your company has raised the hopes of the entire community through very public comments expressing your intent to reopen the plant. However, I am very concerned that you have shown little interest in achieving that goal, even though favorable conditions have already been met.

Mr. Logan Kruger

June 16, 2011

Page 2


Company officials have repeatedly cited the need for a flexible energy contract and healthy aluminum markets as a precursor to reopening the plant, which are two areas where progress has been made. Aluminum prices have doubled since your curtailment of the plant in the beginning of 2009; the West Virginia Public Service Commission extended a special rate mechanism that allows you to be excused from, or defer, increased tariff rates; and the State of West Virginia enacted legislation that allows you to negotiate with utilities and the Public Service Commission on an enabling power contract, which you referred to in your Securities and Exchange Commission filings as "an important step toward the possible restart of the Ravenswood smelter".

In an October 2010 news article, a company official was quoted as saying that restarting the Ravenswood smelter "most likely makes sense", and that same article quoted you as saying that aluminum market conditions have improved. Yet, barely four months later, company officials cited the West Virginia Legislature's refusal to provide your company with \$20 million in assistance as a "setback" to reopening the plant, and further expressing doubt about whether aluminum markets are going to stay healthy. It is as if your company is content to claim publicly that you will reopen the plant if certain conditions are met, but then continually move the goalposts or blame others for continued delays.

The people of my state deserve more than that, and deserve to know that you are doing all you can to live up to your commitment to reopen the plant. Therefore, in addition to the information regarding retiree health care, I would like to know, in specific terms, what your company needs to reopen the plant, and in what way I can be helpful in accomplishing that goal.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this request. I look forward to your prompt reply.

Sincerely,



John D. Rockefeller IV